

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An amorphous fine silica particle made by flame hydrolysis of a silicon compound, wherein said silica particle has an average particle diameter (median diameter) of from 0.1 to 0.7 μm , a specific surface area by BET of from 5 to 30 m^2/g , and a dispersion coefficient (z) ranges from about 31% to 40% ~~of less than 40%~~ as shown in the following formula [I],

$$z = (Y/2X) \times 100\% \quad [I]$$

wherein X is a median size, Y is a particle size range which is from 10% to 90% of an accumulative particle size.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): A filler of an epoxy molding compound, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 1.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): A filler for anti-blocking of a plastic film or sheet, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 1.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): An external additive for a toner, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 1.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): A surface protection layer or an electric charge transportation layer of a photo conductor of an electronic photograph, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 1.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): An amorphous fine silica particle made by a flame hydrolysis of a silicon compound, wherein said silica particle has an average particle diameter (median size) of from 0.1 to 0.7 μm , a specific surface area by BET of from 5 to 30 m^2/g , a dispersion coefficient (z) ranges from about 31.9% to 40% ~~of less than 40%~~ as shown in the following formula [I], and an absolute value of triboelectrostatic charge to the specific surface area by BET is more than 20 $\mu\text{C}/\text{m}^2$

$$z = (Y/2X) \times 100\% \quad [\text{I}]$$

wherein X is a median size, Y is a particle size range which is from 10% to 90% of an accumulative particle size.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 6, wherein said silica particle is surface-treated with a silane coupling agent, an organo-polysiloxane or a combination thereof.

Claim 8 (Original): The amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 6, wherein said silica particle is surface-treated by a dry method.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): A development agent for an electronic photograph, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 6.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): A surface protection layer material of a photo conductor, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 6.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): A material of an electric charge transportation layer, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 6.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A process for producing an amorphous fine silica particle, said process comprising

leading a gaseous silicon compound into a flame to be hydrolyzed to form said particle,

maintaining said silica particle for a time at a temperature greater than the melting point of silica, and

forming said amorphous fine silica particle having an average particle diameter (median size) of from 0.1 to 0.7 μm and a specific surface area of from 5 to 30 m^2/g , a dispersion coefficient (z) ranges from about 31% to 40% as shown in the following formula

[I],

$$z = (Y/2X) \times 100\% \quad [I]$$

wherein X is a median size, Y is a particle size range which is from 10% to 90% of an accumulative particle size;

wherein a flame temperature is greater than the melting point of silica and a silica concentration in the flame (v) is more than $0.25\text{kg}/\text{Nm}^3$.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the silica concentration in the flame (v) is from 0.25 to $1.0\text{kg}/\text{Nm}^3$.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 12, wherein a residence time (t) in the flame of the silica particle is from 0.02 to 0.30 seconds.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 12, further comprising,

controlling a specific surface area (S), a median size (r), a silica concentration in the flame (v), and a staying time in the flame (t), according to the following formula [II] or [III], respectively.

$$S = 3.52 (v \cdot t)^{-0.4} \quad [\text{II}]$$

$$r = 1.07 (v \cdot t)^{0.4} \quad [\text{III}]$$

DISCUSSION OF AMENDMENT

Claims 1-15 are amended. Claims 1, 6, and 12 are amended in order to limit the value of the dispersion coefficient (z) to range ranges from 31% to 40%. Support for the amendments is found on page 21, last para., and original Claim 1. No new matter is believed to be added upon entry of the amendment. Upon entry of the amendment, Claims 1-15 will remain active.